addition to the Gazetted holidays) in all Government of India offices including Industrial Establishments.

(b) Mother Dairy authorities had checked up with some of the other Public Sector Units like I. O. C. E. I. L., N. T. P. C, B. H. E. L. As they were not observing 9th May, 1986 as a holiday, the Mother Dairy also did not declare a holiday on 9th May. The position was explained to the Employees' Union when they had taken up the matter and subsequent to the discussion, the Employees' Union did not raise the issue again. "

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Creation of additional zones of sugarcanes in Maharashtra

473. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any representation from the Government of Maharashtra for creation of additional zones of sugarcanes in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Creation of additional zones for sugar-cane: is within the purivew of the State Government, and no representation in this regard has been received from the Government of Maharashtra. However, the Government of Maharasb* tra has requested for the creation of additional zone in the State for the purposes of fixation of levy sugar prices, which is under consideration.

Mobile fair price shops in hilly and inaccessible areas

474. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mobile fair price shops are operating in hilly and inaccessible areas of the country;

(b) if so, the areas where such shops are in operation; and

(c) whether any schemes have been drawn up to expand the existing network of mobile fair prices shops ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIA MENTARY AFFAIRS AND MI NISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHA GAT): (a) and (b) According to information received from State Governments/UnionTerritory Administrations, as on 30-6-86, 153 mobile fair price shops were opera-j ting in hilly, remote far-flung and inaccessible areas of Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) For helping the States in op-rating additional mobile fair price shops in Integrated Tribal Development Project areas, the Central Government provided assistance of Rs. 95. 02 lakhs to the States of Bihar, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh for purchase of 53 vans, during 1985-86.

During the financial year 1986-87 a sum of Rs. 19. 00 lakhs was released to the Government of Manipur for purchase of 9 vans for operating mobile fair price shops in the interior areas of the State.

Famine affected States

475. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States which were affected by famine or near famine conditions in recent weeks;

(b) the estimated lose suffered by farmers due to those conditions; State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide relief to the affected farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGEN-DRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The States/Union Territories of, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana Manipur, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and Pondicherry have reported that some areas have been affected by drought due to inadeq-quate rainfall during the South-West monsoon period of 1986. It cannot be said that famine or near famine conditions prevail in these States. Memoranda have been received from these States seeking Central assistance for relief operations. A statement indicating the extent of cropped area affected is given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) In accordance with the scheme of assistance in the event of natural calamities approved on the basis of the re-commendations of the take necessary steps for providing assistance to the farmers. The State Governments have substantial funds in the form of margin money, of which 50 percent is contributed by the Centre, to meet the expenditure on relief. However, if the calamity is of such severity that the State Govt, is unable to meet the expendi-diture from its own resources, Central assistance is given for meeting the expenditure. Assistance is available for subsidy for agricultural inputs, conversion of short-eerm loan into the medium-term loan and, other items.

Statement

Extent of damages caused to cropped areas due drought in the post—monsoon period of 1986

Sl. No.	State	Cropped area affected (lakh ha.)	Value (Rs.in lakhs)
1	Assam	5·58	90,00·00
2	Manipur	1·88	64,64·00
3	Haryana	9·30	2,48,37·00
4	Tamil Nadu	1·36	Not reported
5	Pondicherry	0·04	70,03·24
6	Uttar Pradesh	72·15	15,37,00·00
7	Tripura	0·37	Not reported
8	Andhra Pradesh	10·38	2,07,60·00
	TOTAL	101·06	21,48,64·24